GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:990
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
SETTING UP OF NYAYA PANCHAYATS
Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme to constitute Nyaya Panchayats to accord judicial powers to the Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its jurisdiction; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKER AIYAR)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is actively considering a Bill on Nyaya Panchayats in order to provide an alternative decentralized forum of dispute resolution through mediation, conciliation and compromise at the grassroots level with community involvement. A Drafting Committee constituted by the Ministry for this purpose, chaired by the eminent jurist, Professor Upendra Baxi, has submitted its report. One round of consultations with Central Ministries and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations has been completed. A second round of consultation with them is under way. The final picture on the powers and jurisdiction of the Nyaya Panchayats would emerge after consideration of the comments received.